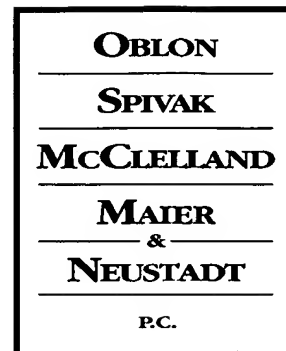




IPW



Docket No.: 243460US6YA

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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RE: Application Serial No.: 10/673,513
Applicants: David L. O'MEARA, et al.
Filing Date: September 30, 2003
For: METHOD FOR MONITORING STATUS OF
SYSTEM COMPONENTS
Group Art Unit: 2823
Examiner: William D. COLEMAN

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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DOCKET NO: 243460US6YA



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
DAVID L. O'MEARA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: WILLIAM D. COLEMAN
SERIAL NO: 10/673,513 :
FILED: SEPTEMBER 30, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2823
FOR: METHOD FOR MONITORING :
STATUS OF SYSTEM COMPONENTS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated June 14, 2005, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse Group I, Claims 1-38, directed to a method of monitoring a semiconductor process. Applicants traverse the Restriction Requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

MPEP § 803

. . . If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

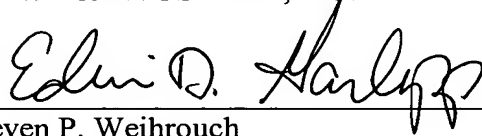
However, the outstanding Restriction Requirement has not established that an undue burden would exist if the Restriction Requirement was not issued and all the claims were examined together. Moreover, the claims of the present invention would appear to be part of

an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single group be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-56 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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SPW/EDG/jyh

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